

(Revised October 7, 2015)

**BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG
ORDINANCE NO. OR:15/13**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER X, TITLED "ANIMAL CONTROL", ARTICLE I, TITLED "DOGS", TO ADD A NEW SECTION 10-19, TITLED "TETHERING OF DOGS", OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung that Chapter X, titled "Animal Control", Article I, titled "Dogs", is amended to create a new Section 10-19, titled "Tethering of Dogs", of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Watchung as follows:

§10-19.1 Tethering of Dogs

A. It is unlawful to chain or tether unneutered/un-spayed dogs in any manner within the Borough of Watchung.

B. Neutered/Spayed dogs may be tethered under the following circumstances:

1. The tether must be at least fifteen (15) feet long and have an operative swivel on both ends, weigh no more than 1/8 of the dog's weight and be attached to a properly fitted collar or harness.
2. The collar used for tethering may not be a choke chain collar, slip collar or prong collar.
3. The tether must allow the dog access to proper shelter, sufficient food and water.
4. The tether may not be used in any area where it may be tangled around an object, such as, but not limited to, a tree, pole, fence or stake, nor may the tether reach or cross a waterway.
5. The tether cannot inhibit the movement of the animal's limbs or cause injury, harm, entanglement or strangulation.
6. The tether must restrain the dog within the bounds of the owner's or custodian's property.

7. The tether must terminate no less than five (5') feet from any fence, pool, wall, vehicle, tree or roadway, or other object or obstruction upon which the animal might harm itself.

8. Dogs may be tethered for no more than six (6) consecutive hours in any twenty four (24) hour period and never between sunset and sunrise.

9. If there are multiple dogs, each dog shall be tethered separately and in such a manner that the tethers shall not become entangled with each other.

10. No dog shall be tethered at a vacant structure or premises for any purpose when it is not monitored by an adult who is present at the property for the duration of such tethering.

11. No dog that is sick or injured shall be tethered.

\$10-19.2 Dog Shelters

A. Dog shelters shall be a suitable size to accommodate the dog in both standing and lying positions.

B. It shall be moisture-proof, windproof, ventilated and in cold temperatures shall promote the retention of body heat.

C. It shall be made of durable material with a solid, moisture-proof floor raised at least two (2) inches from the ground.

D. It shall have a sufficient quantity of clean bedding material consisting of hay, straw, cedar shavings, or equivalent to provide insulation and protection against cold and dampness.

E. Drinking water is available in a clean, liquid state. Snow or ice is not an acceptable water source.

F. The dog shelter or similar structure and the surrounding area shall be free from excessive dirt, trash and waste.

G. For temperatures below 32 degrees Fahrenheit, the dog shelter or structure shall have a wind break at the entrance.

H. For temperatures above 85 degrees Fahrenheit, all dogs must be afforded one or more separate areas of shade large enough to accommodate the entire body of each dog and protect each dog from the direct rays of the sun.

§10-19.3 Enforcement

This Ordinance shall be enforced by the Animal Control Officer or the Police Department.

§10-19.4 Violations and Penalties

A. All other ordinances or parts of ordinances which are inconsistent with this Ordinance are repealed, but only to the extent of the inconsistency.

B. If any part of this Ordinance is invalidated for any reason by competent authority, that part is severed and the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

§10-19.5 Effective Date

This Ordinance shall take effect after final passage, adoption and publication according to law.

ATTEST:

BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG

Michelle DeRocco, Clerk

By: _____
Stephen K. Pote, Mayor

Introduced by: JOREN

Passed: NOVEMBER 5, 2015

Published:

Adopted: